



Office of

BANAZ & SCURICH,
California Green Fruit Shippers.

P. O. BOX 62

Watsonville, Cal. Jan. 27. 1892

Draži prijatelju vlaho evo vam pišem samo
malo riječi i cinim vam znati zamoje dobro stanje
od sdravja za paleci Bogu i takose upam
u Boga dace slijedit i od vas na isti način
i od vas pami je aradti cinim znati kako sam
primio vašu pridragu knihu u kojoj sam
razumio sve što stani pisali vi imate pravo
pital kako vaše a ja mislim doc tako atoni
Bog da sdravje tojes ova jeta pacemo
niget hase ja imi vidimo za ucinit kako je
pravo danije krivo niram, nimeni takose
upam dace bit svetolike dobro sbogom
i primi moju jubeznu pozdrav zajedno snepucom
kako vi i vaša pami ja sbogom imolim vas
da pozdravite nas doma dasmo sdravo,
sbogom ostajem tvoji prijatelj Mike Banaz

See next page for translation.

[Translated by Baldo "Barney" Radovich of Watsonville, CA, in July of 2005.]

Watsonville, Cal. January 27, 1892

Dear friend Vlaho [Klaić].

I am writing just a few words and letting you know that I am in good health thank God and hope in God that it is the same with you and your family, and this time I am letting you know that I have received your lovely letter in which I understand all you have written. You have the right to ask about [your concerns]. I am thinking of coming over there if God gives me good health this summer. Then when we get together we will make it right so it won't be wrong to you or to us. So I am hoping everything will be okay. Goodbye with a sincere hello to you and nephew Niko and your family, and please say hello to our family and tell them that we are in good health. Goodbye. Your friend Niko Banaz

Niko N. Banaz (orig.: Banac) (1844-1907) was born in the village of Popovići, which is a few miles southeast of Dubrovnik, Croatia. It was part of the Austrian Empire when this letter was written. He returned to Popovići around 1892 or 1893 and died there in 1907. He was in America for many years, and was in Watsonville at the very beginning of the Croatian influx into that town. His nephew, Niko P. Banaz, was in Watsonville from the mid-1890s to around 1904. It is probable that the two Banazes were not in Watsonville at the same time. The nephew went bankrupt in Watsonville in 1900.

The original of this letter is in the house of Pero Klaić of Popovići and was scanned in 2005. The Scurich referred to in the letterhead was Luke Scurich (born Luka Skurić in 1864 in Čilipi which is near to Popovići; he died in 1932 in Watsonville). Banaz and Scurich dissolved their business partnership in 1893.

Details of the Banac family provided by Ivo Banac of Popovići in 2021.